March 31, 2000

Megan White, Manager
Water Quality Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: Annual Report for NPDES Permits WASM13001, WASM23001, and WASM33001

Dear Ms. White:

I am writing to report to you on the status of our stormwater management program (SWMP) as required under condition S10 of our Municipal Stormwater General Permits (numbers WASM13001, WASM23001, and WASM 33001), which were issued on July 5, 1995. The focus of this report is on compliance activities for calendar year 1999. I have included a narrative piece that briefly addresses the report elements enumerated in the permits. I have also included a variety of reporting tables that provide more detail on the status of the programs described in our Stormwater Management Program (SWMP). As a whole, our program continues very much as it was described in the SWMP.

Last year’s report included information on the incorporation or annexation of a substantial portion of the urban areas in the Lake Sammamish Basin along with a request that in recognition of this changed circumstance and of County programs in the remaining unincorporated areas, Ecology no longer withhold its approval of the Lake Sammamish component of the County’s SWMP. I am still awaiting Ecology’s response to this request.

We have been corresponding for some time now on the subject of the equivalency of the Ecology and King County stormwater design manuals. Your letter of November 8, 1999, among other items, accepted ordinance changes affecting runoff that my staff had proposed as part of the new Site Alterations Ordinance that has been in process for some time now. We expected that the ordinance would be adopted by June of this year, and your acceptance of the changes was contingent on their implementation by July of this year. Unfortunately, the likely rewrite of a number of County ordinances in response to expected ESA regulation of threatened chinook salmon and bull trout has set the timeline for the adoption of the Site Alterations Ordinance back by at least a year. The executive staff has been instructed that all ordinances related to ESA
regulation must be packaged and submitted to Council together. As a final ESA rule is not likely until June of 2000, it is very likely that the response package, including the Site Alterations Ordinance, will not be drafted and assembled for review by the Council until 2001. Accordingly, we respectfully request that you extend the deadline for this portion of the equivalency issues to July of 2001.

I certify under penalty of law, that this document (the report enclosed) and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for willful violations.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (206) 296-6585, or Luanne Coachman at (206) 296-8381 to discuss this report and the appended materials.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hansen
Manager

NH:pra18

Enclosures

cc: Ed O'Brien, Washington Department of Ecology
    Luanne Coachman, NPDES Coordinator